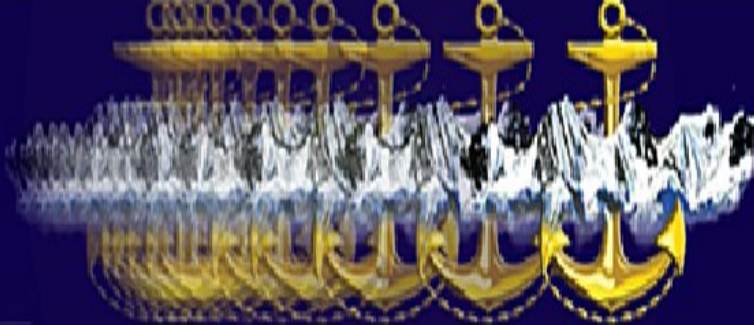




NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Citizens in Support of the Sea Services



Denver Council Peak News, 13(3),



May 2023

Denver Council May 19th Gala Dinner Hosting Colonel Robert Bodisch, USMC and Honoring Our Region Maritime Service Academy Appointees/NROTC Selectees

By Florence Mackin, Council President

All of us who attended the March meeting of the Denver Council were heartened by the dedication of our guest speaker, Major Tyler Folan, Commanding Officer of the Marine Recruiting Station Denver. He gave us an overview of the Marine Corps mission as well as the challenges to military recruitment. With his dynamic leadership it is easy to see how the Recruiting Station in Denver consistently meets their recruitment goals.



In May we continue the Marine Corps theme by welcoming Colonel Robert Bodisch, USMC as our guest speaker. The Commanding Officer/Professor of Naval Science at the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit at CU Boulder, will address the challenges and rewards facing young high school seniors who have received appointments to the Sea Service Academies and NROTC scholarship programs.

On April 18th I had the honor of presenting the Denver Council award for Exemplary Leadership to Midshipman First Class Lillie McMullen. She is quite an impressive young woman who is headed to the Marine Basic School in September.

I must share with you that the Denver Council Board voted to increase the price of our dinners from \$37.50 to \$40.00 per plate due to an increase in our costs. While the Board was reluctant to make this move, we needed to do so to maintain our financial viability in this age of inflation.

I will be unable to attend our May meeting, as my husband and I plan to travel to San Diego to attend his 55th Naval Academy reunion. David Fong, Denver Council Treasurer, will lead the meeting. I hope that you will take this opportunity to meet a new generation of military leaders.

Please join us on May 19th at the Hilton Central Park Denver, 6 PM.

Colonel Robert Bodisch, USMC

A second-generation Marine, Rob Bodisch received his

commission from Texas A & M University in 1996. Following the Basic School, Armor Officer, Platoon Leader, Intelligence Officer and Weapons/Tactics Instructor Courses, he served as a Platoon Commander and Company Executive Officer in 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Twenty-nine Palms, Calif.; as an Intelligence Officer at 1st Marine Aircraft Wing; as Security Manager for Marine Air Group 36 in Okinawa, Japan; and deploying as an Operations Planner with USCENTCOM Coalition Forces in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In 2004-2005 after graduating from Expeditionary Warfare School he was assigned to 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C. as Commander of Company C, deploying his Tank Company to Fallujah, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Bodisch then completed a joint assignment as an Intelligence Officer with Joint Task Force North, USNORTHCOM, Fort Bliss, Texas supporting federal agencies along both U.S. borders. He later completed the US Army Command & General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. earning a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from Webster University.

He was then assigned to 2nd Tank Battalion serving as Executive Officer and deploying as a Campaign Planner with International Security Assistance Force Joint Command in Afghanistan, and later as the Somalia Strategic Planner with Combined Joint Task Force–Horn of Africa at Camp Lemonier, Djibouti.

From 2013-2014, Bodisch was assigned to the Combat Development Command in Quantico, Va. where he was selected for command and then returned to 2nd Tank Battalion from 2014-2016. Upon completion of his command assignment, he graduated from the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. with a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

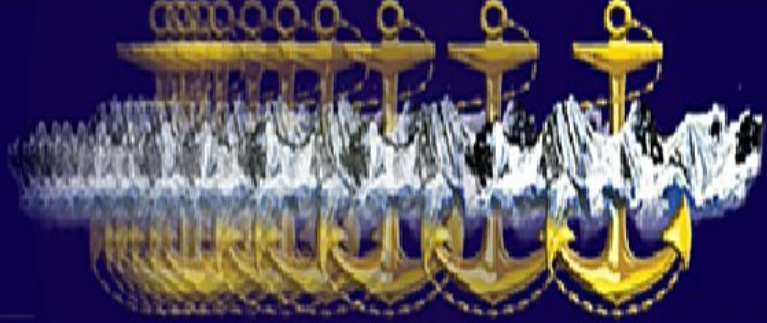
From 2017-2019, Bodisch was assigned as an instructor at the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Ala. From 2019-2020, he was assigned to 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan as the Strategic and Future Plans Officer and later as the Officer-In-Charge of the Joint COVID-19 Response Center. From 2020-2022, Colonel Bodisch served as the Commanding Officer of the Combined Arms Training Center at Camp Fuji, Japan prior to his current assignment.





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Sea Cadets Update

Page Carr, Instructor, NSCC

Public Affairs Officer, Lexington Division & Training Ship Colorado

Two drill weekends occurred in March. The first involved League and Sea Cadet Recruits attending a mini boot camp to learn many of the basics such as mission and core values of the Sea Cadet program, military customs and etiquette, and much more. Cadet Chief Petty Officer Asper organized, staffed and ran the entire weekend. The combined efforts of Asper and Cadet Petty Officers from both units resulted in an amazing weekend.

Everyone returned on March 25th where cadets learned about Navy Astronauts from Lt. Cmdr. Fong, and damage control training from Cmdr. Hall. Many Cadets then competed against each other individually and in teams while running obstacle courses of various challenging terrains at the Warrior Playground in Longmont. That night, they watched a movie, *Devotion*, about two Navy aviators during the Korean War.



Sunday began with Navy soccer and culminated with final muster where many awards and promotions were given including Cadet PO1 Carr's promotion to Ship's Leading Petty Officer. With that, Carr joins the ranks of only nine other SLPOs across the country and one of only two in Training Ship Colorado.

The April drill was another memorable event as this is the month when we graduate our Senior cadets who this year are Chief Petty Officer Asper, Petty Officer 2nd Class

Junio-Warrick, Petty Officer 3rd Class Chen and Seaman Apprentice Gobble.

Saturday, retired Capt. Dick Life, USN shared with cadets his amazing perspective as a former Naval Attaché assigned to Moscow in the 1980's and how those events shaped Russia's current-day actions and attitudes. Cadets also attended a class to learn shotgun and weapon safety in preparation for going skeet shooting on Sunday. Saturday dinner hosted Seniors and included a Color Guard, Invocation, POW/ MIA table, a toast and Wardroom games.



On Sunday, the cadets headed to Cherry Creek for skeet shooting where many Cadets were able to hit their targets. Sunday afternoon was final muster with eighteen awards and promotions earned and the four Seniors were called up "Front and Center" for the final time. The Seniors shared their future plans to attend military academies, an Aeronautical University and Colorado colleges. Cadet Chief Petty Officer Asper shared a fun slideshow to showcase the Seniors' experiences throughout their time in Sea Cadets. Many tears were shed by the families during this final muster.



Online Resources:

Navy League National:
<https://www.navyleague.org/>

Denver Council Navy League:
www.navyleague-denvercouncil.org/

Denver Council Flickr photo albums:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/131150115@N07/albums/>

Denver Council Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/DenverCouncil/>

USS Colorado (SSN-788) Submarine Association
<https://usscoloradosubassoc.org>

Navy League National Convention

This year's National Convention will be held June 7-11 in Dallas, Texas at the Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel, 15201 Dallas Parkway, Addison, Texas 75001. For more information or to register, go to www.NavyLeague.org.

Denver Council Navy League Peak Newsletter is an official publication of the Denver Council, serving the members and community of Colorado. This publication does not necessarily reflect the official views of the National Navy League or Department of Defense.

Stories and artwork may be submitted via email to the editor at mahaffey10@aol.com
Electronic versions available upon request.

Find out more on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DenverCouncil/>



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



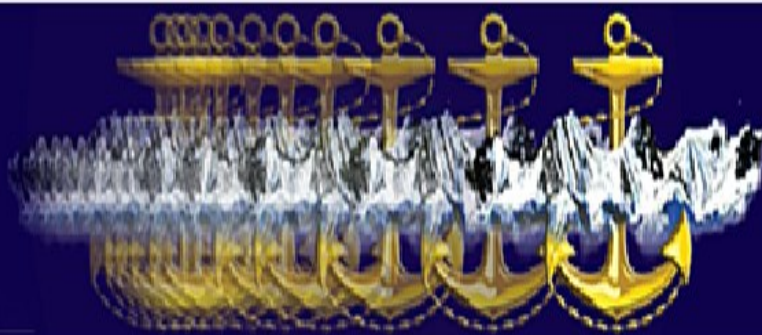
U.S. Flag Merchant Marine





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Denver Council

USS Colorado Submarine Association Update

By Don Price

On April 18th several Association members attended the University of Colorado (CU) NROTC Unit Awards Ceremony where Association President, Don Price presented the Unit's commanding officer, Colonel Robert Bodisch, USMC, with a U.S. flag flown by COLORADO while underway, a photo of the boat with the flag flying from the sail, and a letter from Commander David Beam, Commanding Officer USS COLORADO, which Price read to the assembled Midshipmen.



Additionally, the Association has been invited to attend the CU NROTC Unit Commissioning Ceremony on 12 May at the By-

ron White Stadium Club on the CU campus.

Meanwhile, back in New London, the boat continues preparations for their 3rd deployment. Association members are planning to attend a pre-deployment picnic in New London in June.

Following her return from deployment, the boat will relocate to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard to begin an extensive overhaul. There will also be a Change of Command after the boat's arrival at the shipyard. Although many members of the Association might rather go to beautiful New London/Groton, Conn., they may be forced to go to Hawaii for this next Change of Command.

As always, all Navy League members who have not yet done so, are welcome to join the Association (<https://ucsa.wildapricot.org/join-us>) though you would have to go to Hawaii if you wanted to attend the next change of command ceremony. Sorry.

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Legislative Affairs Update

By Chris Schutzenberger

In March, Region Vice-President for Legislative Affairs Chris Schutzenberger briefed the offices of four freshman members of Congress on the functions and importance of Navy League. The briefings covered our history, current activities, and our legislative requests for the upcoming Congressional session. These briefings took place virtually via Zoom. While a face-to-face meeting is desirable, the great advantage of virtual briefings is that they allow both multiple Navy League members and multiple Congressional staff members to attend from different locations without the time and inconvenience of traveling. The new members of Congress, their congressional districts and the dates their office staffs were briefed are:

- Brittany Pettersen (Colo.-7). March 15.
- Yadira Caraveo (Colo.-8). March 14.
- Harriet Hageman (Wyo.-1). March 14.
- Gabe Vasquez (N.M.-2). March 20.

In addition, April 18th marked the official launch of the 2023 Hill Surge which is now in progress and will continue through June. The Hill Surge briefings to members of Congress and their staffs will also occur over Zoom and will consist of 20-minute powerpoint presentations communicating the Navy League's legislative requests followed by questions. This format worked extremely well during the 2022 Hill Surge. Anyone interested in participating in this year's briefings to Congress, even if only to listen and observe, contact Chris Schutzenberger at teamschutz@yahoo.com.

March Dinner Featured Major Tyer Folan, USMC Commanding Officer, Marine Recruiting Station Denver and Honored Top Sailors from Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Colorado

Major Folan delivered a dynamic, inspiring and informative presentation on the integration of Marine Corps and Navy Operations supporting our national security and the challenges facing military recruitment. NIOC top sailor honors are detailed in the Awards section of the March newsletter.



U.S. Navy



U.S. Coast Guard



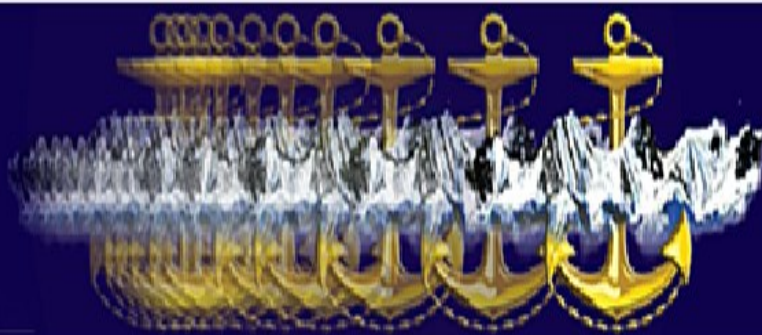
U.S. Flag Merchant Marine





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Navy Birthday Ball

Planning for the Ball is underway with a tentative date of October 7th at the Antlers, A Wyndham Hotel in Colorado Springs. The Council is requesting volunteers to help plan, organize and manage this gala event. Anyone interested in assisting, please contact Florence Mackin at 720-291-9771, 303-665-9579 or fmackin@mackinweb.net.

Awards/Honors

On April 18th the Council awarded the Exemplary Leadership Award to Midshipman 1st Class Lillie McMullen of the University of Colorado Boulder NROTC unit during an Awards Ceremony on the Boulder Campus.



During April and May this year the Denver Council awarded Navy League Theodore Roosevelt Youth Medals for Outstanding Performance to several Marine Corps and Navy JROTC cadets from various high schools. The recipients' names, their JROTC affiliation, high school and Award Ceremony dates are:

MCJROTC Cadets

Ashley Lopez, Adams City HS, Commerce City, Colo., May 3rd

Ethan Aguirre, Adams City HS, Commerce City, Colo., May 3rd

Long Nguyen, Northridge HS, Greeley, Colo., April 25th

Maddison Hoefling, Northridge HS, Greeley, Colo., April 25th

Joel Schurman, Kelly Walsh HS, Casper, Wyo., May 12th

NJROTC Cadets

Iyana Clarke, Doherty HS, Colorado Springs, Colo., April 5th

Antoinette Pascual, Widefield HS, Colorado Springs, Colo., April 28th

Joshua Willson, Mesa Ridge HS, Colorado Springs, Colo. May 1st

Elizabeth Lee, Montrose HS, Montrose, Colo., May 12th

During the upcoming May Denver Meeting, the Council will honor the top sailor from the Navy Operational Support Center Denver.

May Gala Dinner Meeting Friday, May 19th, 2023, 7PM

Your reservations may be made online no later than **Monday, May 15th, 5 PM** via our Navy League RSVP Site:

<https://denvercouncilnavyleague.wildapricot.org/event-5257451>

If you prefer to RSVP by ground mail, please print this page, complete the form and send it to arrive **NO LATER THAN MONDAY, MAY 15** with check for \$40.00 per plate. Payable to NLUS Denver Council to:

Mrs. Pam Quin
1000 Green Oaks Drive
Greenwood Village, CO. 80121-1325
720-937-9124

Jpq9123@msn.com

RESERVATION REQUEST for NLUS Denver Council May Dinner

Friday May 19th, 2023

6:00 PM Social Hour

7:00 PM Dinner

NAME(S): _____

GUEST(S): _____

MEALS: _____

Beef Medallions _____

Grilled Chicken _____

Salmon _____

Vegetarian Plate _____

\$40.00 per plate

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE

**DoubleTree by Hilton Central Park Denver
4040 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80216**

The hotel is located at the intersection of I-70 and Quebec Street. There is ample parking on the side and at the back of the building.

I-70 west to Northfield/Quebec Street Exit. Turn left (south) on Quebec Street, then left (east) on East 40th Ave. Take this to Frontage Road, Turn left (north) on Frontage Road to the DoubleTree on the Right.



U.S. Navy



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